

House Resolution 256 also calls for keeping related strong sanctions on Russia for its illegal and aggressive actions in the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine, and for the full implementation of the Minsk agreements which, among other things, calls for the full removal of Russian military equipment, as well as illegal armed groups, fighters and mercenaries from Ukrainian territory . . .

This resolution also supports the U.S. European Deterrence Initiative program of military support to our Eastern European and Baltic allies, and calls on our European allies to make the promised investments in their individual, regional and collective defenses in accordance to the NATO guidelines for membership.

Finally, this measure acknowledges the valuable contributions by Central and Eastern European allies to NATO's collective security and peace operations around the globe, such as ongoing operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kosovo.

This is an important message to send to our allies at a critical moment in history. I encourage my colleagues to join me in support.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE RUSSELL

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, due to travel delays out of my control, I was unable to be present for votes on July 10, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 314 and YEA on Roll Call No. 315.

ATTACK ON THE MEK RALLY

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, recently a large group of Iranian dissidents held a peaceful rally in Paris calling for a free Iran. The participants expressed their demand for an end to the evil regime ruling Iran and a secular democracy put in its place.

We have seen countless times how the mullahs in Iran are not fans of Iranians rallying for freedom. Repeatedly they have responded with violence to crush protests in the streets of Iran, including public hangings of government protestors.

But this year they had the audacity to order an attack on the Iranian dissidents rallying in Paris. European police arrested multiple suspects armed with explosives, including an Iranian diplomat, who intended to target the rally that many Americans, including members of Congress, were attending.

The mullahs in Iran are the leading state sponsors of terrorism, so it should be no surprise that they would attempt to use terrorism to silence Iranians living in exile. The evil of this regime knows no limits. They will murder their own people wherever they speak out. Those responsible, including members of the regime in Tehran, must be held accountable.

The best hope for Iran and world peace is a regime change through free and fair elections. The land of Iran does not belong to the

mullahs. It belongs to the people of Iran. It is long past time for the people of Iran to get their land back. The United States should publicly and politically support a regime change from the evil tyrants of Iran.

The cause of freedom in Iran is just and righteous. It will never be silenced. In the end democracy and justice will prevail. The torch of freedom cannot be quenched.

And that's just the way it is.

IN HONOR OF THE PROMOTION OF
LIEUTENANT COLONEL PAUL R.
DELANO, JR. TO THE RANK OF
COLONEL

HON. CHRIS COLLINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paul R. Delano, Jr. as he is promoted to Colonel in the United States Air Force Reserve.

Paul Delano, Jr. enlisted into the Air Force Reserve in 1986 and was assigned to the 914th Security Police Squadron at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. In 2007, Paul deployed as Commander of the 407th Expeditionary Force Support Squadron, supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. Paul then became the first Force Support Squadron Commander assigned to the 914th Airlift Wing and in 2011, he deployed as Deputy Group Commander of the 651 Air Expeditionary Group to support Operation Enduring Freedom. Recently, he served as a House Legislative Liaison Officer for Secretary of the Air Force where he guided the staff of 67 members on Air Force priorities.

In addition to his service in the Air Force Reserve, Paul joined the Buffalo Police Department in 1988, serving as Lieutenant of Narcotics and SWAT. He has two daughters, Mary and Gina. Gina enlisted in the Air Force Reserve, following in her father's footsteps at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

I congratulate Paul on his promotion from Lieutenant Colonel to Colonel and his transition to Detachment 6 Commander at MacDill Air Force Base. I thank Paul Delano, Jr. for his service to our nation, his work for the Buffalo Police Department, and his unwavering support to the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

CELEBRATING THE CLINTON
COUNTY FAIR'S 70TH YEAR

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Clinton County Fair's 70th celebration.

Since its debut in 1948, what was then the Clinton County Agricultural and Industrial Fair has been known for showcasing Clinton County's agricultural industry. For 70 years, the Clinton County Fair has provided the surrounding community with a family-friendly environment filled with attractions while exposing all of its attendees to the world of agriculture. Each summer, the fair welcomes community

members to a variety of exciting exhibits and showcases all that the county's farmers and manufacturers have to offer. Attendees can experience livestock shows and demonstrations, a demolition derby, wildlife exhibits and more throughout the six-day celebration of the county's agricultural and industrial achievements.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to congratulate the Clinton County Fair and its board on 70 years of honoring Clinton County agriculture, and join the residents of Clinton County in celebrating the important role that agriculture plays in their daily lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LLOYD DOGGETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, due to flight difficulties out of my control, I missed the June 25th vote on H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2018, a bill I have long been supportive of. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 289.

HONORING THE HISTORIC INAUGURATION OF SAN FRANCISCO
MAYOR LONDON BREED

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise with my colleagues, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE and Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER, to recognize a historic moment: the inauguration of London Breed as the 45th Mayor of San Francisco on this day. Her swearing-in ceremony is a civil rights and public service milestone. London Breed will be the first African-American woman and only the second woman to serve as Mayor of our city. Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN was the first.

Mayor London Breed until recently served as President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and Acting Mayor, leading San Francisco following the tragic passing of Mayor Edwin Lee. Her trailblazing leadership on the Board of Supervisors began when she first won election in November 2012. In January of 2015, her colleagues elected her President of the Board. She was re-elected as District 5 Supervisor in November 2016 and unanimously re-elected as Board President two months later.

London Breed's extraordinary and historic journey to Room 200 in City Hall began in a public housing project only blocks away. Raised by her grandmother in Plaza East Public Housing in the Western Addition, she has never forgotten where she comes from. She graduated with honors from Galileo High School and attended the University of California, Davis, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science/Public Service with a minor in African American Studies. She went on to earn a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of San Francisco.

Before her election as District 5 Supervisor, Breed effectively served as Executive Director

of the African American Art & Culture Complex in the Western Addition for over a decade, transforming the struggling center into a vital, financially-stable community resource that provides vital after-school arts and cultural programs for youth and seniors. She has also served our city as a San Francisco Redevelopment Agency Commissioner for five years, and as a San Francisco Fire Commissioner until her election to the Board of Supervisors.

The Mayor has been a transformative leader in passing landmark legislation to increase housing along transit corridors and prioritize neighborhood residents for the affordable homes in their community. She helped transform unused public housing units into homes for homeless families, and is leading the effort to revitalize thousands more. Breed has successfully fought for more navigation centers for the homeless and launched a task force to study if safe injection facilities can help get IV drug users off the streets and into treatment, as she works to improve mental health services.

Mayor Breed has made bold, life-saving improvements to public safety in San Francisco, effectively tackling the City's ambulance response crisis in 2014 and cutting ambulance response times by over 26 percent. She has fought for more police officers, and passed a complete overhaul of the City's graffiti policies, as well as first-in-the-country legislation to protect music and nightlife venues.

Her ground-breaking legislative accomplishments are many, including passing the strongest Styrofoam ban in the country and legislation that has kept over 40 tons of medical waste out of the Bay and landfills, spearheading San Francisco's clean electrical energy program CleanPowerSF, and passing legislation to replace hundreds of Muni buses and the entire fleet of Muni trains, creating a more reliable and quiet Muni. She has consistently advocated for safe streets for all users, whether on the bus, a bike, car, or on foot.

Mayor Breed has fully dedicated her entire adult life to serving our community and improving the City's housing, environment, public safety, transportation, and quality of life. As Mayor, she will ensure that San Francisco maintains its steadfast dedication to equality, inclusivity, and justice.

We extend our warm congratulations and look forward to working with Mayor London Breed for a better future for all.

RECOGNIZING STEVE FETVEIT

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Steve Fetveit, an award-winning broadcaster who served for decades as a trusted source for Montana news.

Steve retired as a television news anchor for NBC Montana last week, capping a distinguished 42-year broadcast career that took him throughout the state.

Steve was born and raised in Montana, graduated from Montana State University, and understands what is important to Montanans. Viewers recognized and appreciated his knowledge of our state, his easygoing personality, and his credibility.

The Greater Montana Foundation and the Montana Broadcasters Association recognized Steve as Montana's "Television On-Air Broadcaster of the Year" in 2006.

Steve has served the wider community of broadcast journalists, including as a board member and chairman of the Montana Broadcasters Association. His experience and professionalism are an example to the young broadcasters he mentors. He dedicates his time to up-and-coming journalists, promoting their careers and reinforcing the importance of the profession's ethics.

Dewey Bruce, president and CEO of the Montana Broadcasters Association, said, "Steve is a fantastic newsman, very fair, and has made valuable contributions to broadcasters and the state of the Montana. He is very deserving of recognition."

For his outstanding career as a broadcast journalist and his dedication to serving our Montana communities, I recognize Steve Fetveit for embodying the spirit of Montana.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. ASAHEL "ASH" E. HAYES

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the life and accomplishments of Dr. Asahel "Ash" E. Hayes, who passed away in California on July 10, 2018.

Ash dedicated 60 years of his abundant life to the fitness industry and inspired many others to develop a love and appreciation for exercise.

He was appointed to the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports by presidents Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan. Ash served as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Council on Exercise since its inception, and continued on the Board serving as emeritus historian.

For decades, Ash served in leadership roles on local boards and committees, including the U.S. Olympics Committee, the San Diego Unified School District, the IDEA Foundation, and at his alma mater, the University of California, Los Angeles.

His lifelong advocacy of physical fitness and health continued to be recognized throughout his life. In 2007, Ash was honored with the San Diego State Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Service Award. And in 2009, he received the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports Lifetime Achievement Award. These accolades reflect Ash's strong dedication to the bettering of our community. He was a wise mentor, a supportive teacher, and most importantly, he instilled others with passion.

My deepest sympathies and prayers go to his wife Juanita and their family. While we mourn the loss of a great husband, father, mentor, and much more, we can find joy in the fact that Ash's legacy will continue to enrich the lives of generations to come.

NORTH KOREA ABUSES HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the cause of the Korean people is essential—not just from a national security perspective but also from a moral obligation as Christians. It is the duty of the free to demand justice for those who suffer under tyranny.

For decades, the North Korean regime has silenced its people and subjected thousands to the most brutal conditions on Earth. The horrific repression of the Kim family is no secret, but lately the focus has been dominated by the nuclear threat.

This is a crucial challenge which we must address. But it must not come at the cost of the Korean people. What would we say to God if we turned our backs on them? That we would have liked to help but we were too worried about our own well-being? This would be unacceptable.

We must not shut the door on their hopes for freedom so that we can live in peace. History has taught us that no man, woman, or child is safe so long as tyrants are able to rule. North Korea is only the most recent example of this enduring lesson.

The Kim regime has ruled the hermit kingdom for three generations, and throughout that time it has crushed all the liberties and human rights of the North Korean people to preserve its power. With unrivaled power over the North, the regime has turned its cruelty towards the outside world. By building nuclear weapons, the regime can hold all of humanity hostage.

Kim Jong Un is hoping through nuclear blackmail, he can force other nations into accepting his rule and his demands. Addressing the nuclear threat cannot be separate from ensuring human rights for all Koreans. The regime must be held to account for its abuses, despite the dangers.

We must not be naïve in talks with this evil regime. Many past presidents wanted to believe we could reason with them. But the Kims achieved their power through violence and oppression. Absolute control is what they are accustomed to, so negotiating a mutual peace with the world achieves little for them.

For the regime, peace is only acceptable when we remove sanctions, normalize relations, and accept the unfettered imprisonment of the Korean people. But we cannot accept this. We will not be bullied or bargain away the future of Korea's children.

They are entitled to the same freedom and respect which our children enjoy. As we move forward in pursuing denuclearization on the Korean peninsula, we must also advocate for the rights of the Korean people.

For our freedom from fear is inevitably linked to the freedom of the Korean people. Democracies and free societies do not act like this regime—and certainly do not threaten other people's children to achieve their own goals. That is what terrorists do.

We must also keep in mind the broader implications of a deal with the regime. If we reward the Kim dynasty for their development of nuclear arms, we will be setting a precedent for all dictators around the world.